

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 04400 222053Z

70

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 MCT-01 SY-05

SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 TRSE-00 /055 W

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R 222015Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2260

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 4400

PANAMA FOR REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ES

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SECURITY

REF: STATE 212490

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION (DCA) COL. SIG-FREDO VELASCO TO EXPRESS CONTINUED U.S. INTEREST IN SECURITY OF INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS AND ASK HIM IF HE HAD ANY PARTICULAR PROBLEMS HERE. VELASCO CITED NO LARGE SECURITY PROBLEMS BUT DOES HAVE A SMALL ONE. THE AIRPORT HAS A WALK-THROUGH METAL DETECTION DEVICE FOR SCREENING PASSENGERS, DONATED BY PANAM, WHICH DOES NOT FUNCTION BECAUSE OF INTERFERENCE FROM METAL STRUCTURAL PARTS IN THE TERMINAL BUILDING AND/OR THE PRESENCE OF A LARGE GENERATOR ON THE FLOOR BELOW. THE DCA WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE WHICH WOULD ENABLE HIM TO PUT THIS UNIT INTO WORKING ORDER.

2. IN EMBASSY VIEW SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AT SAN SALVADOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARE ADEQUATE IN VIEW OF RESOURCES AVAILABLE AND LEVEL OF THREAT. IT IS DIFFICULT, BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE, FOR UNSCREENED PERSONS TO ENTER TRANSIT LOUNGE

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PAGE 02 SAN SA 04400 222053Z

WITH SCREENED PASSENGERS. ACCORDING TO VELASCO, ICAO SECURITY

STANDARDS ARE APPLIED WITH ADAPTATIONS FOR LOCAL SITUATION. DIRECTOR OF AIRPORT SECURITY MAJOR SALVADOR PALACIOS ATTENDED FAA SECURITY COURSE IN OKLAHOMA CITY DURING APRIL, 1976.

3. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH DCA REGARDING AVIATION SECURITY. HOWEVER, PANAM EXPERTS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE THE MACHINE WORK AND IT COULD BE TECHNICALLY IMPOSSIBLE GIVEN PRESENT AIRPORT SETUP. IF INTERESTED IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE, WE SUGGEST FAA FIRST DISCUSS MATTER WITH PANAMA TO SEE WHAT THEY HAVE TRIED.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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